



UPGRADES TO THE ANR ROBINSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (“the Authority”) has a vision “to be the leader of diverse and innovative aviation business in the region” and our mission statement is “committed to being customer-centric, while stimulating innovation and economic growth in the aviation business”. Hence, the comfort, visual aesthetics and optimized functionality of our Airports are paramount. In keeping with this mandate, works were earmarked to upgrade the Terminal Building at the ANR Robinson International Airport.

Since the initial construction of the Crown Point Airport in 1986, there had been no major rehabilitation works, only minor intermediary alterations. The Terminal Building became weathered over time, due to the impact of sea blast on the Terminal steel structure and general wear and tear throughout the building. The increased passenger traffic and growing expectations of the travellers’ experience also heavily contributed to the dire need for an upgrade of the facilities.

The Authority has embarked on a facelift project for the ANR Robinson International Airport (ANRRRIA) that consists of two components - the Internal Modification Project and the Roof Rehabilitation Project, both of which were completed on June 30th, 2016.

The Roof Rehabilitation Project started on February 6th, 2014 and progressed with the various project packages being undertaken on a phased basis, with a view that upon its completion there would be benefits to passengers, airport users as well as concessionaires. Roof leaks and metal corrosion were addressed through the restoration of the roof system and support steel structure with water proofing of the concrete portions. The relocation of the water storage facilities to the ground level, as opposed to the roof, also decreased the possibility of escalated damage. Furthermore, to enable the completion of the works, a paved area was created on the extremity of the facility, which will be re-purposed as a public car park upon completion of the facelift projects.

The Internal Modification Project started on January 22nd, 2015 with the aim to achieve greater operational efficiency and streamline related systems and processes while optimizing the internal spaces at the Terminal Building. The Domestic and International Ticketing Areas were remodelled, the International Departures and Arrival Halls were upgraded and the Customs and Immigration spaces were modified; there was also the addition of a First Class Lounge. The project included the creation of new office spaces, the erection of partition walls, the installation of new electrical systems, the introduction of an access control system and the upgrading of support systems such as the fire alarm system. The safety and security of operations at ANRRRIA were improved through the formalisation of the baggage screening and Baggage Make Up Areas (BMA) and the introduction of an Intransit Corridor adjacent to the International Departure Hall. Ground handling agencies also benefitted from works via upgrades to the areas utilised by support services.

The culture of Tobago was a major focus for all ambient elements. Local contractors were approached to create artistic images representative of the destination to evoke a “sense of place” feeling from travellers. This was especially important to the design as the goal of increased visitor arrivals is directly supported by the appeal of our major port of entry. The ANR Robinson International Airport needs to be both attractive and functional, as visitors need to feel welcomed, safe and experience a superior level of hospitality.

Overall, the works resulted in a 35% increase in operational space, enhanced aesthetic appeal to all airport users, streamlined systems and processes for superior operational efficiency as well as allowing the Authority to be better landlords to our stakeholders. Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago continues on the road to development at the ANRRRIA and plans to make large strides within the foreseeable future. The completion of these upgrades projects have given new life to the Terminal Building and garnered satisfactory sentiments from all users.

We look forward to the continued development of the ANR Robinson International Airport and the resulting benefits to the Authority’s internal and external stakeholders.